

Kindly amend claims 1, 6, 22, 38 and 39 to appear as set forth below. A separate markup sheet accompanies this amendment.

5b
C1
a1
1. (Amended) A fixture system comprising:

a base having at least one set of support brackets;

a first support member, adapted for connection to at least one of the support brackets,

wherein the support member includes a shaft having a threaded coupling joined thereto;

a first connector, extending through one of the set of support brackets and the shaft, for securing the support member to the one set of support brackets; and

a rod having a first end and a second end, wherein the first end is coupled to the coupling.

a2
6. (Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the coupling is welded to the shaft.

Sub
Woods
a3
22. (Amended) A fixture system comprising:

a first rod having a first end and a second end;

a housing having a channel and a housing coupling, wherein the second end of the first rod is coupled to the housing coupling;

a first support member having a shaft and a coupling, wherein the shaft is coupled within the channel of the housing; and

a second rod having a first end and a second end, wherein the first end of the second rod is coupled to the coupling of the support member.

Sub
B1

38. (Amended) A base, comprising:

an elongate body having a first end and a second end;

af a first set of support brackets positioned adjacent the first end and a second set of support brackets positioned adjacent the second end, wherein each set of support brackets includes a thru-hole; and

a threaded aperture in the elongate body between the first and second ends.

39. (Amended) The base of claim 38, wherein the support brackets further include a fastener proximate the thru-hole.

Kindly add new claim 45 as follows:

45. (New) A fixture system comprising:

as a base having at least one set of support brackets;

a first support member, adapted for connection to at least one of the support brackets, wherein the support member includes a shaft and a coupling joined to the shaft; and

a first connector, extending through one of the set of support brackets and through the shaft, for securing the support member to the one set of support brackets.